

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Project Title: Leonard Point 3 Water Redevelopment	Project No. 10-204
Region/GMU: 5A	HPC:
Project Type: Water Catchment Redevelopment	
Project Description: This project looks to rebuild a US Forest Service wildlife catchment in central GMU 5A. The current catchment is inadequate in the amount of water available (storage capacity), reliability, and apron size. In addition, the current catchment is over 30 years old and likely subject to failure soon. With funding from the HPC process, AZGFD will replace the inadequate FS drinker with a maintenance free catchment system capable of supporting the year round demands of big game such as elk and deer.	
Wildlife Species to Benefit: Elk, Mule Deer, Whitetail Deer, Black Bear, Turkey, small game, and various non-game including bats and reptiles.	
Possible Funding Partners:	
Implementation Schedule: Beginning: September 2011 Completed: June 2013	NEPA Compliance: (if applicable) Completed: Yes ____ No <u>X</u> Projected Completion Date: September, 2010
PROJECT FUNDING	
SBG Funds Requested: \$38,000.00	
Cost Share Funds: \$27,000.00	
Total Project Costs: \$65,000.00	
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION	
Applicant: Garrett Fabian (please print) Telephone: (928) 474-2053	Address: 3500 S. Lake Mary Rd. Flagstaff, AZ 86001
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel)	
Coordinated with: USFA, FRSG HPC and AZ Elk Society	Date:
Applicant's signature: Garrett Fabian	Date: 8/11/2010

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:
Game Branch
2221 W. Greenway Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85023

mdisney@azgfd.gov

WAS PROJECT PRESENTED TO THE LOCAL HPC? YES X NO

HAS PROJECT BEEN SUBMITTED IN PREVIOUS YEARS? IF SO WAS IT FUNDED?
No.

NEED STATEMENT/PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

Water availability on the northern portion of the Mogollon Ranger District within the central portion of Game Management Unit (GMU) 5A is fairly limited. Most water availability comes from dirt tanks, which have become so degraded that water availability is severely limited. There are six USFS water catchments in the area, which were constructed in the 1970's. All six are failing and in need of redevelopment. The six catchments (USFS labeled - Trick Tanks) consist of:

- Trick Tank #1- livestock/wildlife apron catchment feeding into a railroad car storage vault with a ring drinker located at (N 34° 45.067 / W 111° 03.310) near the rock climb recreation area.
- Trick Tank #2 - wildlife drinker with an apron catchment and small metal storage vault located on Jacks Canyon at (N 34 41.704, W 111 07.050).
- Trick Tank #3 - wildlife drinker with an apron catchment and small metal storage vault located at (approx. N 34° 37.969 / W 111° 02.646) on a non-numbered two-tracker off FS 319 behind Mogollon Ranch.
- Trick Tank #4 is a 10,000 gallon wildlife/fire "saucer" type trick tank with a wildlife drinker located downstream located at (N° 34 34.245 / W 111° 05.210) on FS 137B,
- Trick Tank #5 is a 10,000 gallon wildlife/fire "saucer" type trick tank with a wildlife drinker located downstream located at Trick Tank #5 (N 34° 32.577 / W 111° 07.122) on FS 137
- Trick Tank FS145 is not listed on the USFS list of catchments, but it is a wildlife/fire system consisting of a 10,000 gallon "saucer" type trick tank with a wildlife drinker located downstream located at (N 34° 24.898 / W 111° 11.609) on FS 145.

See attached Map for Trick Tank #3 site.

In 2001, these "saucer and railroad car" trick tanks began to exhibit failures in water delivery; in addition are experiencing significant rust issues that will soon lead to a complete failure. The wildlife only catchments are experiencing apron failure and in addition have too small of an apron and storage vault to support wildlife demands. In 2006, AZGFD Wildlife Manager Garrett Fabian took an AZGFD Water Development Engineer on a field trip of the trick tanks. The Engineer estimated the life of these catchments not be more than 5 more years, and suggested the most efficient solution was to completely replace the existing catchments. For these reasons, AZGFD would like to start the process to replace these catchments within the next several years one at a time. The number one priority catchment is Trick Tank #3, which is the one we are seeking funding for this funding cycle.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

This project looks to rebuild a US Forest Service wildlife catchment in central GMU 5A. The current catchment is inadequate in the amount of water available (storage capacity), reliability, and apron size (see attached photo). In addition, the current catchment is over 30 years old and likely subject to failure soon. With funding from the HPC process, AZGFD will replace the inadequate FS drinker with a maintenance free catchment system capable of supporting the year round demands of big game such as elk and deer.

PROJECT STRATEGIES:

The proposed plan would consist of AZGFD Development Branch building a gravity fed water catchment (10,000 to 30,000 gallon) in the identified areas (see attached schematic). These large gravity fed catchments are buried underground, require virtually no maintenance, and due to their size require little effort in maintaining water availability. Catchments would be constructed within the existing water development's footprint to minimize disturbance and administrative paperwork, and would include the removal of the degraded catchments. Only medium sized dump trucks with flatbed trailers carrying backhoe and bobcat are the needed heavy equipment necessary to construct the new catchments. The old catchment would be broken down and hauled out via dump truck for disposal.

An occasional tree or two may need to be cut down in order to facilitate the work. These trees are Ponderosa Pine or Juniper and will not exceed 24" in dbh. Additionally, no new roads or trails will be necessary for the work. All 6 catchments currently reside on existing roads. If an existing road does need to be improved for the machinery to head into the area, the road will be left as it was found prior to the work (i.e. boulders, trees, etc will be placed on road) to prohibit use other than what it was getting prior to the work. Finally, all work within Mexican Spotted Owl Protected Activity Areas will be done outside of the breeding season (allowable work timeframe is Sept.1-March1 yearly). It is estimated that it will take about a month to complete each catchment. USFS Coconino Mogollon Rim District agrees to pre-work identification of weeds, treatment and post work monitoring and weed treatment of the footprint area should the need arise for three years following completion. Overall, these water development reconstructions would help reduce the limiting factor of water availability on the northern half of the Mogollon Ranger District and increase the carrying capacity of this area for wildlife.

PROJECT LOCATION:

Trick Tank #3, also known as Leonard Points #3, located at (approx. N 34° 37.969 / W 111° 02.646) on a non-numbered two-tracker off FS 319 behind Mogollon Ranch in central GMU 5A. Access can be through Forest Road 319 from Clear Creek Pines Units 8&9. Easier access is through Mogollon Ranch, however it is private property and would require a written agreement.

LAND OWNERSHIP AT PROJECT SITE (Please state specifically if PRIVATE PROPERTY and provide landowner's name):

US Forest Service, Mogollon Rim District

IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?

N/A

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

This project is located in transition Ponderosa Pine – Pinion/Juniper habitat. Prominent tree species include Ponderosa Pine, Juniper, Alligator Juniper, Pinion and Gambel Oak. Elevation is approximately 6600 feet, receiving significant winter moisture.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Cost estimate was derived in coordination with AZGFD Engineer Joe Currie. He provided the following cost estimate:

- 3' X 18'dia. Fiberglass Ring Tank – \$ 10,009.74 (per tank, need two tanks)
- 3' X 5' Fiberglass Walk-in "Elk" Trough - \$ 3,933.54
- 24' X 96' Metal frame and R-panel Apron - \$ 6,152.60
- 200' X 200' Heavy duty Pipe rail fence - \$ 3,200.00
- 3" Sch 80 Plumbing and brass ball valves - \$ 675.00
- Misc. Materials - \$ 525.00

Total: \$34,507.00

Cost increase of 10% = \$37,958

Grant Request of \$38,000.00

AZGFD Development crew will complete the installation of the project. J. Currie estimated that to be \$20,000 in kind labor cost match. In addition, Wildlife Manager G. Fabian has dedicated 10 days to project development, field trips, coordination, and finalization, which is matching in kind labor of \$1820.00. The USFS has spent XX days completing administrative paperwork for project analysis, NEPA, ARCHY, fieldtrips, and weed monitoring, which is a matching in kind labor of approximately \$5000.00?.

Project material cost:	\$38,000.00
Matching in kind labor value:	\$27,000.00
Total project cost:	\$65,000.00

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

The USFS Mogollon Rim RD is cooperating in this effort with AZGFD to replace these catchments. AZGFD would seek funding through the AZGFD HPC process and other grant funding opportunities. The Mogollon Rim RD would cost share these projects through NEPA and ARCH completion and weed requirements. There will be no partial direct funding on the USFS part as the catchments that were previously used for fire are no longer necessary. These catchments will be re-built without the fire hook-up capability. All future maintenance and repair of the newly constructed catchments will become the responsibility of the AZGFD.

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

These drinkers will be monitored for water availability and maintenance issues several times each year.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

Hopefully little to none.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

GMU 5A Wildlife Manager

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (see attached worksheet):

See below.

TREE SHEARING (AGRA-AXE, PUSH) PROJECTS (see attached worksheet): N/A

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT **WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET**

PROJECT NAME: Leonard Points #3

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent "Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?"** Yes.
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**
Joe Currie, several dates including field trip 5/6/2010.
- 3) **What is the estimated annual inches of precipitation for the area? (mark one)**
 2-4 4-6 6-8 8-10 10-12 X 12-14 14-16 >16
- 4) **Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?**
 X YES (please complete #5 below) NO (skip #5 below)
- 5) **For the accessible, perennial water source nearest this project:**
Name of water source: East Clear Creek, which is approximately ½ mile away and nearly 600 vertical feet down. Other water sources within 4 miles include the residences of CCP 8&9 who often provide standing water for livestock and wildlife.
Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank, etc.):
Ownership of water source: Private residences
Distance in miles from project: 3 miles
- 6) **Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts?** YES X NO
- 7) **Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Park, National Monument, etc). If private land, list landowner.**
- 8) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**
Type of access (mark one): 2x4 vehicles X 4x4 only foot only**
**If foot access only: Distance in miles: Approx. hiking time:

-- Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES X NO

-- Please describe any restrictions to public access:
One access point is through private property. The other is through USFS maintained road 319.
- 9) **Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.**
See attached drawing from Joe Currie.
- 10) **Was a site visit completed?** X Yes No
If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.
Joe Currie, 5/6/2010